



**GFA AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE**

**CANCELLED 07.02.2017**

**REFER MANUFACTURERS CURRENT DATA**

**TYPE AFFECTED:** Discus-bT. All serial numbers.

**SUBJECT:** Extension of service life.

**BACKGROUND:** Fatigue tests on fibre composite wings and wing spars have demonstrated that a service life expectancy of 12000 hours can be reached for these structural components. As these fatigue test programs did not examine the entire aircraft made of fibre composite, the service life of 12000 hours can be granted only if the long-term airworthiness of each individual aircraft is demonstrated in a special multi-stage inspection program (over and above the mandatory annual C of A inspections) for the purpose of increasing the service life. This has to be incorporated in the Maintenance Manual.

**DOCUMENTATION:** Schempp-Hirth Flugzeugbau GmbH Technical Note No. 863-5. Copies of the affected Manual pages can be received from the GFA office on request. TN No. 863-5 herewith becomes part of this AD.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Exchange of pages in the Maintenance Manual as outlined in TN No. 863-5.

**WEIGHT AND BALANCE:** Not affected.

**COMPLIANCE:** Action must be done when reaching a service life of 6000 flight hours, but not later than 31. December 1999. Accomplishment of actions to be entered in the aircraft log book by an inspector rated for annual inspections.

The requirements of this GFA Airworthiness Directive are mandatory. This Directive is issued pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the Gliding Federation of Australia.

SIGNED: T. Geiger

CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS

For and on behalf of:

© THE GLIDING FEDERATION  
OF AUSTRALIA

Subject : Extension of the service time

Affected : Powered sailplane model "Discus-bT" (ATC No. 863)  
 • all serial numbers

Urgency : On reaching a service time of 6000 flight hours,  
 but not later than December 31, 1999

Reason : The results of fatigue tests (subsequently carried  
 out on wing spar sections) have demonstrated that the  
 time in service of GFRP/CFRP sailplanes and powered  
 sailplanes may be extended to 12000 hours, provided  
 the airworthiness of each individual aircraft is  
 evidenced by a special multi-stage inspection program,  
 which is then to be incorporated into the Maintenance  
 Manual.

Actions : Amendments of the Maintenance Manual  
 (insert revised pages dated June 1999 and destroy  
 superseded pages)

Page	Title
0.1.1	Record of revisions
0.3.1	
0.3.2	
3.3.1	Special inspections of the airframe
3.3.2	
10.2	Page is no longer applicable
The list of effective pages is to be amended accordingly!	

Material,

Weight,

C/G position : Not affected

Note : Accomplishment of actions to be entered in the  
 aircraft log book by a licensed inspector.

Kirchheim/Teck, July 5, 1999

Issued: *H. Treiber*  
 ( H. Treiber )

LBA-approved:

The German original of this Technical Note  
 has been approved by the LBA under the  
 date of . . . 18. Aug. 1999  
 and is signed by Mr. . . . *Fendt* . . .  
 The translation into English has been  
 done by best knowledge and judgement.